



## Glossary

anadromous	Refers to fish that, while born in fresh water, live in the ocean mostly and breed in fresh water.
beneficiary	Partners, interested parties and the general public who receive benefit from a flood management project. The type of benefit may be direct (e.g. property damage reduction) or indirect (e.g. economic losses outside a flood event).
bypass, flood	An engineered wide and shallow channel or confined floodplain, usually flanked by levees, that receives flood waters to reduce the amount of flow in a river or stream.
Central Valley	The Central Valley is located in the central portion of California and is home to the nation's most diverse and productive agricultural land. The northern half is referred to as the Sacramento Valley and the southern half as the San Joaquin Valley. The two halves are joined by the shared Delta of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers (DWR, Draft FloodSAFE Strategic Plan, June 2008).
Central Valley Flood Management Planning Program (CVFMP)	The CVFMP is one program within FloodSAFE California, a multi-year initiative led and managed by the California Department of Water Resources. Primary products of the CVFMP Program are the State Plan of Flood Control Descriptive Document, the Flood Control System Status Report, and the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (CVFPP).
Central Valley Flood Protection Plan	The CVFPP is a State plan that will describe the challenges, opportunities, and a vision for improving integrated flood management in the Central Valley. The CVFPP will document the current and future risks associated with flooding and recommend improvements to the State-federal flood protection system to reduce the occurrence of major flooding and the consequence of flood damage that could result. The plan will be submitted to the Central Valley Flood Protection Board (Board) by January 1, 2012, for adoption by the following July, and will be updated every five years.
conveyance capacity	The maximum rate of flowing water, usually expressed in cubic feet per second (cfs), that a river, canal, or bypass can receive without exceeding a threshold value such as a relatively safe water level against a levee.
CVFMP Forum	Valley-wide or regional conference-style public meetings with presentations, workshops, panel discussions, and information booths.



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These forums are the primary venue for engaging a wide array of interests in discussing draft plan content and gauging agreement, and fostering information-sharing about regional and system-wide flood management challenges and potential solutions. Related FloodSAFE projects and programs will also use CVFMP Forums to engage interested parties efficiently.

CVFPP Work Group	Place-based (e.g. regional) and subject-based (e.g. topic) work groups chartered to develop content and content recommendations for the CVFPP. Work groups assist the development team in developing plan content and producing milestone documents. Work groups are a critical element for developing a CVFPP that includes and accurately reflects the State, federal, tribal, local, regional perspectives, and subject-matter expertise necessary to achieve broad public support.
design discharge	A rate of flowing water measured in cubic feet per second (cfs) and the surface profile of the associated water level for which a flood management project was designed.
ecosystem	An ecosystem is a natural unit consisting of all the plants, animals and micro-organisms (biological components) in an area functioning together with all of the physical processes of the environment. The biotic and physical components in an ecosystem are interdependent, frequently with complex feedback loops. The physical components that sustain the biota of an ecosystem include but may not be limited to the soil or substrate, topographic relief and aspect, the atmosphere, weather and climate, hydrology, geomorphic processes, the nutrient regime, and the salinity regime.
ecosystem rehabilitation	A practice where an ecosystem, that has been degraded or disturbed by a specific human action, is changed to an improved state that is not necessarily the pre-action "natural" state but is defined by providing the basic hydrogeomorphic and ecological processes that support a functioning ecosystem.
ecosystem restoration	A practice where an ecosystem, that has been degraded or disturbed by a specific human action, is returned to its pre-action "natural" state, as defined by its pre-action hydrogeomorphic and ecological processes.
ecosystem services	Ecosystem services emanate from a functioning ecosystem and are the beneficial outcomes for the natural environment or for people that



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result from ecosystem functions. Some examples of ecosystem services are support of the food chain, harvesting of animals or plants, clean water, or scenic views. In order for an ecosystem to provide services to humans, some interaction with, or at least some appreciation by, humans is required.

DFG, California Wildlife Action Plan, 2004

**encroachment** The installation of any tower, pole, pipe, fence, building, structure, object, or improvement of any kind or character that is placed in, on, under, or over any portion of the State Water Resources Development System or other use of the department's right-of-way, including the alteration of the ground surface elevation by more than one foot, or the planting of trees, vines, or other vegetation on the department's right-of-way that may pose a threat to the physical integrity of any facility of the State Water Resources Development System or that could interfere with the department's rights with regard to access, inspection, repair, or the operation and maintenance of any State Water Resources Development System facility.

California Water Code Sec. 12899(b)

**environmental stewardship** A commitment to responsibly manage and protect natural resources (water, air, land, plants and animals), and ecosystems in a functional and sustainable manner that ensures they are available for future generations.

California Department of Water Resources Policy Paper:  
Environmental Stewardship  
DRAFT 2000-03-25

**FloodSAFE California** DWR's multi-faceted initiative launched in 2006 to improve public safety through integrated flood management and reduce potential flood damages in the state's highest risk areas. Although led at the state level and initially funded by proposition 1E and 84 bond money, FloodSAFE implementation relies on the cooperation and assistance of federal partners, Tribal entities, local sponsors and other stakeholders. The FloodSAFE vision is a sustainable integrated flood management and emergency response system throughout California that improves public safety, protects and enhances environmental and cultural resources, and supports economic growth by reducing the probability of destructive floods, promoting beneficial floodplain processes, and lowering the damages caused by flooding (DWR, Draft FloodSAFE Strategic Plan, June 2008).

**flood basin** A bowl-shaped, natural landform that historically or presently receives and retains floodwaters, or an engineered floodwater detention basin,



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excavated below grade or surrounded by levees.

flood corridor	A passage way for flood flows including but not limited to bypass systems, channels, levee systems, floodplain easements, culverts, floodwalls, or a combination thereof.
Flood Control System Status Report	A report that will provide an assessment of the status of the facilities included in the State Plan of Flood Control (SPFC) Descriptive Document, identify deficiencies, and make recommendations for improvement. This report will be revised as needed.
flood damages	All damages caused by a flood including physical damage, loss of life, and economic damage (DWR, Draft FloodSAFE Strategic Plan, June 2008).
flood management	The use of comprehensive methods to manage flood flows, providing multiple benefits in addition to protecting people and property (DWR, Draft FloodSAFE Strategic Plan, June 2008).
flood risk	The probability of flooding combined with the damages that could result when flooding occurs.
floodplain	A flat or nearly flat area adjacent to a stream or river that experiences occasional or periodic flooding (DWR, Draft FloodSAFE Strategic Plan, June 2008).
Floodplain management	<p>A decision-making process whose goal is to achieve appropriate use of the nation's floodplains. Appropriate use is any activity or set of activities that is compatible with the risk to natural resources and human resources. The operation of an overall program of corrective and preventive measures for reducing flood damage, including but not limited to watershed management, emergency preparedness plans, flood control works, and floodplain management regulations.</p> <p>A Blueprint for Change, Sharing the Challenge: Floodplain Management Into the 21st Century, Report of the Interagency Floodplain Management Review Committee to the Administration Floodplain Management Task Force, Washington, D.C., June 1994</p>
floodway, state-designated	The channel of a stream and that portion of the adjoining flood plain required to reasonably provide for the construction of a project for passage of the design flood including the lands necessary for construction of project levee that are regulated by the Central Valley Protection Board.



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Focus Area	The Focus Area for the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan includes all lands currently receiving protection from the facilities of State Plan of Flood Control.
geomorphology, fluvial	Geomorphology is the study of the characteristics, origins, and development of landforms. Fluvial geomorphology is the study of landforms and channel types created by flowing water and the transport of rocks and sediment by water flow.
headcut erosion	A headcut is the sudden change in elevation or knickpoint at the leading edge of a gully.  U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service
Integrated Flood Management	An approach to dealing with flood risk that recognizes the interconnection of flood management actions within broader water resources management and land use planning; the value of coordinating across geographic and agency boundaries; the need to evaluate opportunities and potential impacts from a system perspective; and the importance of environmental stewardship and sustainability (DWR, Draft FloodSAFE Strategic Plan, June 2008).
interest-based group	A collection of individuals and/or organizations with common interests in the activities and actions anticipated by the CVFPP.
legacy community	A rural community that is registered as a Historic District by either a state or federal entity.
levee protection zone	An area that is protected, as determined by the Board or DWR, by a levee that is part of the facilities of the State Plan of Flood Control (GC 65300.2).
neotropical migratory bird	Refers to migratory birds from the neotropic ecozone that includes the Mexican lowlands, Central and South America, the Caribbean islands and southern Florida.
non-project levee	Any levee that is <u>not</u> part of the State-federal flood protection system (WC 9602(c)). Non- Project levees are typically privately owned or under the authority of a local levee district.
non-urbanized	A developed area or an area outside a developed area in which there



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area	are fewer than 10,000 residents (GC 65007(e)).
project levee	Any levee that is part of the State-federal flood protection system (WC 9602(c)).
partner	Individuals, organizations and/or agencies with direct responsibilities for activities and actions anticipated by the CVFPP
Planning Area	The Planning Area for the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan is comprised of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Watersheds as established by the Watershed Boundary Dataset from the National Resources Conservation Service, the United States Department of Agriculture.
riparian area	Riparian areas are transitional between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and are distinguished by gradients in biophysical conditions, ecological processes, and biota. They are areas through which surface and subsurface hydrology connect water bodies with their adjacent uplands. They include those portions of terrestrial ecosystems that significantly influence exchanges of energy and matter with aquatic ecosystems (i.e., a zone of influence). Riparian areas are adjacent to perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, lakes, and estuarine-marine shorelines.
rural community	A city, town, or settlement outside of urban and urbanizing areas with expected population less than 10,000 within the next ten years.
State Plan of Flood Control	The State and federal flood control works, lands, programs, plans, policies, conditions, and mode of maintenance and operations of the Sacramento River Flood Control Project, in specific flood control projects in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River watershed, and in other areas that the state has provided assurances to the federal government to operate and maintain flood project facilities. These facilities include approximately 1,600 miles of levees in the Central Valley. The SPFC Descriptive Document will inventory and describe this system and its operation.(CVFMP Program Fact Sheet and California Public Resources Code Section 5096.805)
sustainability	A project is “sustainable” when it is socially, environmentally, and financially feasible for an enduring period.
urban area	A developed area in which there are 10,000 residents or more (GC



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65007 (i)).

urbanizing area	A developed area or an area outside a developed area that is planned or anticipated to have 10,000 residents or more within the next 10 years (GC 65007 (j)).
urban level of flood protection	Level of protection necessary to withstand flooding that has a 1-in-200 chance of occurring in any given year using criteria consistent with, or developed by, the Department of Water Resources (WC 9602 (i)).
200-year flood event	A flood event with a 1-in-200 chance of occurring in any given year.